

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 COLOMB 01635 121027Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 /018 W  
-----130614Z 050511 /11

R 120656Z MAY 77  
FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO  
TO USDOC WASHDC  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7269

UNCLAS COLOMBO 1635

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: BBSR, CE

SUBJ: WTDR/FTI LANKEM CEYLON LIMITED

REF: USDOC 01147

1. SRI LANKA 2. CNTRY CODE: 542 3. SER. NO: N/A

4. LANKEM CEYLON LIMITED

4.A. CODE: - 4B. CODE: - 4C. CODE: -

5. P.O. BOX 919, CEYLINCO HOUSE, QUEEN'S STREET

6. COLOMBO1, SRI LANKA

7. ESTABL: 1970 8. EMPL:122 9. SIZE: (20-X) MEDIUM

10. REPUTATION: (22-X) GOOD

11. SELLS ITS PRODUCT TO THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY COUNTRIES

12. RPT. DATE: 05/77

13.A. 28700 MFR., RTL., AGT., DIST. AND IMP. OF AGROCHEMICALS  
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13B. 28794 MFR., RETL., AGT., AND DIST. OF HOUSEHOLD INSETICIDES

13C. 28100 MFR., RETL., AGT., DIST. AND IMP. OF INDUSTRIAL  
INORGANIC CHEMICALS

13D. 28518 MFR., RETL. AND DIST. OF WOOD PRESERVATIVES

13E. 28519 MFR., RETL. AND DIST. OF PAINT REMOVERS AND THINNERS

13F. 28444 MFR., RETL. AND DIST. OF TOOTHPASTE

13G. 28600 MFR., RETL., AGT., DIST. AND IMP. OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIC CHEMICALS

13H. 29510 MFR., RETL. AND DIST. OF ASPHALT AND BITUMINOUS PRODUCTS

13I. 28995 MFR. AND EXPORTER OF ESSENTIAL OILS (LEMON GRASS OIL)

14. CONTACT: F.P. DE ALWIS TITLE: MANAGING DIRECTOR

15. CABLE: LALANKEM 16. TELEX: 1184 AMERLOYD COLOMBO

17. TEL: 28331-35

18. FINANCIAL REF: HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION  
24 PRINCE STREET, COLOMBO 1

19. TRADE REF: (A) E.I. DUPONT DE NEMOURS & CO., WILMINGTON, DELAWARE 19898 AND (B) ALLIED CHEMICAL CORPORATION, 1411 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10018.

20. FOREIGN FIRMS REPRESENTED: AGENCY REPS. OF OVER SIX YEARS OF THE FOLLOWING FIRMS (A) VINYL PRODUCTS LTD., SURREY, U.K., UNCLASSIFIED

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FOR PLASTICS, (B) ANCHOR CHEMICAL COMPANY LTD., MANCHESTER, U.K., FOR PLASTICS, (C) SCOTT BADER LTD., NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, U.K., FOR POLYESTER RESINS, (D) SHELL INTEATIONAL CHEMICAL COMPANY LTD., SHELL CENTER, LONDON SE1, U.K., FOR INDUSTRIAL AND AGRO CHECMIALS, (E) ALBATROS SUPERFOSFAATBRIEKEN N.V., UTRECHT, HOLLAND FOR FERTILIZER, (F) SUMITOMO SHOJI KAISHA LTD., TOKYO, JAPAN FOR AGROCHEMICALS, (G) TOYOMENKA KAISHA LTD., TOKYO, JAPAN FOR AGROCHEMICALS, (H) NICHIMEN CO., TOKYO, JAPAN FOR AGROCHEMICALS, (I) MARUBENI CORPORATION, TOKYO, JAPAN FOR AGROCHEMICALS AND PLASTICS AND (J) MONSANTO SINGAPORE CO (PTE) LTD., SINGAPORE FOR AGROCHEMICALS ACQUIRED 1976.

21. THE FIRM IS LOCATED ON THE WESTERN WING OF THE SECOND FLOOR OF A TWELVE STORIED BUILDING SITUATED ALONG THE VERY BUSY MAIN ROAD AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE FORT, THE CHIEF BUSINESS AND SHOPPING CENTER OF COLOMBO. ORIGINALLY A PRIVATE LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY INCORPORATED ON SEPTEMBER 15, 1964, UNDER THE NAME OF SHELL CHEMICAL COMPANY OF CEYLON LTD., IT WAS CONVERTED INTO A VQIC COMPANY ON NOVEMBER 14, 1968, AND LATER ON MAY 6,

1969, CHANGED ITS NAME TO THE PRESENT STYLE. THE FIRM COMMENCED BUSINESS ON MARCH 16, 1970, WITH AN AUTHORIZED AND PAID-UP CAPITAL OF RUPEES 2 MILLION (THIS WE ARE INFORMED WAS INCREASED IN AUGUST 1975 TO RS.3 MILLION BY THE ISSUE OF ONE BONUS SHARE AT PAR TO EVERY TWO SHARES HELD). IT TOOK OVER THE CHEMICAL BUSINESS WHICH THE SHELL COMPANY OF CEYLON LTD. CARRIED ON PREVIOUSLY FOR 18 YEARS, CONSISTING OF THE PLANT AND MACHINERY AND MOVABLE ASSETS AND LEASEHOLD LAND AND BUILDINGS SITUATED AT KOLONNAWA IN THE DISTRICT OF COLOMBO (THE PLANT HAS SINCE BEEN MOVED TO A CLOSER SITE ALONG A BUSY MAIN ROAD NORTH OF COLOMBO) ALONG WITH THE EXISTING LICENCES AND QUOTAS AND AGENCY RIGHTS. FOR THIS PURPOSE, IT ISSUED 98\*000 ORDINARY SHARES OF RS.10 EACH TO THE SHELL COMPANY OF CEYLON LTD., (NOW BASED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM), SUCH HOLDING REPRESENTING 49 PERCENT OF THE ENTIRE ISSUED CAPITAL (WITH THE INCREASE IN THE CAPITAL IN AUGUST 1975, THE HSARES HELD TOTALED 147,000 WHICH, VALUED AT PAR, WAS RS.1,470,000 AND CAUSED NO CHANGE IN THE HOLDING).  
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ACCORDING TO TRADE SOURCES, LANKEM IS ONE OF SRI LANKA'S LEADING MANUFACTURERS AND DISTRIBUTORS OF INDUSTRIAL AND AGROCHEMICALS. REPORTEDLY, ITS TURNOVER FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 1977, AMOUNTED TO RS.25 MILLION (\$3,450,000). LOCAL BANKING SOURCES STATE THAT THE FIRM IS UNDER CAPABLE MANAGEMENT AND CONSIDERED RELIABLE IN ITS BUSINESS ENGAGEMENTS. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS FIRM AS AN EXCELLENT TRADE CONTACT FOR INTERESTED AMERICAN FIRMS.

22. PREPARED BY: SPATHMANATHAN. APPROVED BY: JSOGINO  
AT: U.S. EMBASSY, COLOMBO, SRI LANKA.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Review Markings:**  
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